

**DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA OFFICE OF PARTNERSHIPS
AND GRANTS DEVELOPMENT**

**Fiscal Year 2000 Report
Executive Summary**

I. Introduction

This report provides a summary of the activities for fiscal year 2000 of the newly formed Office of Partnerships and Grants Development (OPGD). In March 2000, the Office of Partnerships and Grants Development (OPGD) was established through the merger of the Mayor's Public-private Partnerships Initiative and the Resource Development Unit (RDU) of the Office of Grants Management and Development (OGMD) within the Office of the Chief Financial Officer.

All of OPGD's efforts advance Mayor Anthony Williams' assertion that "*as we move forward in rebuilding the nation's capital city, our success will be determined by our combined commitment to work together.*" Through the development of multi-sector partnerships, OPGD creates vehicles for District Government, Federal Government, community groups, foundations, businesses, and faith institutions to come together, work together and succeed together.

II. Competitive Federal Grants

For FY 2000, OPGD built on the successes of OGMD's Resource Development Unit in FY 1999. Activities included identifying and communicating as many new competitive federal grant opportunities as possible, increasing the number of grant application submissions, enhancing the quality of these applications, and tracking and compiling District-wide data.

District agencies submitted 79 grant applications in FY2000 (a total of \$31.7 million requested) out of a possible 196 NOFAs (totaling potentially \$56.6 million) for which they were eligible and were awarded 26 grants in FY2000 (total \$18.5 million). OPGD distributed all of these NOFAs and tracked each grant opportunity.

	NOFAs for which DC was eligible	Applications Submitted	Awards	Pending Award Announcements
Number	196	79	26	3
Dollar Amounts	\$56.6 million	\$31.7 million	\$18.5 million	\$885,000

In addition to informing all District agencies of funding opportunities and tracking District-wide grant development activity, OPGD also provided direct technical assistance on a case-by-case basis to agencies. OPGD carried out 40 activities related to assistance and support to agencies applying for Federal funds, including hiring of 20 grant writers, coordinating the entire application process, writing portions of the proposal, facilitating planning meetings, participating on grant writing teams and identifying partners. These direct activities generated over \$14.5 million (nearly 80% of the total \$18.5 million) in federal grant awards made to the District.

III. Multi-sector Partnerships

The Office of Partnerships and Grants Development supports the establishment and enhancement of multi-sector partnerships with foundations, individuals, private businesses and corporations that can directly support the District's Citywide Strategic Plan. In identifying potential partnerships, OPGD follows Mayor Williams' definition of partnerships as *"meaningful and sustainable partnerships in which ideas, resources and talent are pooled to address public policy issues [which are] more valuable than partnerships based simply on the exchange of money."*

In addition to compiling citywide partnership data, OPGD carried out approximately 20 activities related to the development of partnerships and private grant applications. This assistance included hiring grant writers, assisting in the writing of proposals, facilitating meetings, identifying funders, coordinating with appropriate District agencies, and brokering the partnerships. During our first year, these partnership activities generated \$677,000 in private grant awards made to the District.

IV. Services to Nonprofit Community

OPGD assisted a variety of nonprofit organizations across the city, including small, start-up groups, faith-based organizations, and large umbrella nonprofits.

In FY 2000, OPGD:

- held meetings with over 90 nonprofits;
- provided 76 topical information packets;
- provided one-on-one technical support to 20 nonprofits assisting them in reviewing grant proposals and identifying potential funding sources.
- began a "Faith-Based Initiative" in partnership with the Mayor's Office of Religious Affairs and the US Department of Housing and Urban Development's Center for Community and Interfaith Partnerships.

OPGD also sponsored a second annual Public-Private Partnership Conference: Maximizing Our Region's Resources, in partnership with GWU, US Department of Justice, Fannie Mae, the Support Center of Washington and the Metropolitan Council of Governments. Over 500 people from the District and surrounding jurisdictions attended. Presenters and panelists included representatives from Federal government, the White House, District Government, foundations, businesses, universities and nonprofit organizations.

V. Communications

A critical function of OPGD has been its role in establishing and maintaining lines of communication between potential partners. In FY2000, OPGD expanded and improved the communication streams offered:

- The *Funding Alert*, published 51 times a year, provides over 1350 District agencies and nonprofit organizations with time sensitive information of federal and foundation programs currently being funded as well as helpful information on how to access the funding.
- An email-based local listserv created and maintained in partnership with the Washington Council of Agencies, provides online communication among over 200 governments, nonprofits, community organizations and foundations.
- Began plans to set up mechanism for topic-specific online discussions through Washingtonpost.com, a message board and chatroom which will be called WPPartnership.

VI. Looking Ahead

Looking ahead to FY 2001 and beyond, the Office of Partnerships and Grants Development remains committed to the establishment and strengthening of multi-sector partnerships with District agencies that lead to greater financial, in-kind, and technical assistance resources for our nation's capital. OPGD has recently received approval from Federal government officials at the Department of Health and Human Services' Division of Cost Allocation to use indirect cost that was allocated to the RDU in the OCFO to support its function, personal services and nonpersonal services in the EOM. Thus, OPGD is actively pursuing the transfer of these funds from the OCFO to support and sustain this function within the EOM.

OPGD has an aggressive 2001 work plan that focuses its resources on building relationships with corporate, foundation, and federal decision-makers who can advance the District's Citywide Strategic Plan. In the spirit of the strategic priority of Unity of Purpose and Democracy, OPGD is committed to forging partnerships that bring different sectors of this community together around a common agenda -- an agenda that ensures the well being, health, safety and prosperity of the residents of the District of Columbia, "America's Crown Jewel."